ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Montgomery Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Lowndesboro Baptist Church, Lowndes County, Ala.,

July 19 and 20, 1892.

OFFICERS.

B. A. JACKSON, Moderator.....Ramer, Ala.
J. I LAMAR, Clerk.....Deatsville, Ala.
J. H. DICKSON, Treasurer.....Pine Level, Ala.

Who also constitute the Executive Board of the Association.

The next session will be held with Prattville Church, Tuesday, July 18, 1893.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY,
1892.

NAMES AND POSTOFFICES OF MINISTERS.

G. B. Eager, D. D.	Montgomery, Ala.
W. M Harris	" "
C. W. Hare	" "
W. J. Elliott	" "
B. A. Jackson	Ramer, "
J. Falkner	Montgomery, "
J Hicks	" "
W. H. Booth	Prattville, "
W. G. Sullivant	Raif Branch, "
N. A. Moore	Center Point, "

LICENTIATES.

R. W. B. Merritt	Montgomery, Ala.
G. M. Harrington	Tallassee, "

ASSOCIATION DISTRICTS

First District—Wetumpka, Bethany, Prattville, Mt. Hebron, Deatsville, Shoal Creek, Coosada.

Second District—Pine Level, Mt. Lebanon, Mt. Zion, Lowndesboro, Hayneville.

Third District—First Montgomery, Adams Street, Ramer, Bethesda, Philadelphia, Friendship.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Association called to order by Moderator.
2. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
3. Introductory Sermon.
4. Fix Time of Meeting and Adjourning.
5. Appoint Moderator Clerk and Treasurer.
6. Receive Correspondence and Visitors.
7. Receive petitions from Churches desiring membership.
8. Appoint Committee to report during session—
   - On Religious Exercises.
   - On Finance and Auditing.
   - On State of the Churches.
   - On Nominations.
9. Read Rules of Order.
10. Hear Reports from Committees and Treasurer.
11. Return Correspondence.
12. Appoint Committees to report at next meeting—
   - On Home and State Missions.
   - On Foreign Missions.
   - On Sabbath Schools.
   - On Temperance.
   - On Education.
   - On Bible and Colportage.
   - On Ministerial Education.
   - On Indigent Ministers.
   - On Woman's Work
13. Hear Miscellaneous Business.
14. Call Roll and erase absentees.
15. Arrange for printing Minutes.
16. Correct Minutes and adjourn.

MINUTES.

The Montgomery Baptist Association convened in eleventh annual session with Lowndesboro Baptist church, Lowndes county, Alabama, on Tuesday, July 19, 1892, at 10 o'clock a. m.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder B. A. Jackson.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Elder J. Falkner.

Appointed Committee on Credentials, as follows: G. W. Ellis, A. H. Eubank, J. N. Norris.

The principal and alternate being absent, by request of the Association, Elder W. M. Harris preached the Introductory Sermon; text: Philippians 3:13-14: "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

The Committee on Credentials made report as follows:

Adams Street, Montgomery—W. M. Harris, G. W. Ellis, A. A. Poindexter, S. W. Turner.
Bethany—W. P. Dawson.
Bethesda—J. T. Boyd.
Coosada—Letter; no delegate.
Deatsville—J. I. Lamar.
Friendship—W. G. Sullivant, C. V. Collier.
Hayneville—A. B. Couch, U. G. W. Powell.
Lowndesboro—W. J. Elliott, P. N. Cilley, R. Meadows.
First Montgomery—J. Falkner, Dr. G. B. Eager, C. W. Hare, W. J. Elliott, J. G. Harris.
Mt. Hebron—J. N. Norris, A. C. Williams.
Mt. Lebanon—Not represented.
Mt. Zion—Amos Jones, G. W. Johnson, Jr.
Philadelphia—Not represented.
Pine Level—J. H. Dickson, A. H. Eubank.
Prattville—E. E. Gresham, R. Anderson, W. F. Sadler, J. B. Bell.
Ramer—B A. Jackson, J. R. McLendon.
Shoal Creek—Not represented.
Wetumpka—W. E. Lacey, C. C. Edwards, L. G. Sedberry.

On motion the present officers were elected by acclamation, as follows: Elder B. A. Jackson, Moderator; Bro. J. I. Lamar, Clerk; Bro. J. H. Dickson, Treasurer.

Bro. J. G. Harris presented to the Moderator a gavel he had ordered made by a blind boy of Talladega county, Ala., which was accepted with thanks.

On motion, appointed W. M. Harris, J. H. Dickson and C. W. Hare a Committee on Order of Business.

The following were appointed chairmen of standing committees in place of those absent:

Home and State Missions—Elder W. M. Harris.
Education—Dr. B. F. Riley.
Bible and Colportage—J. B. Bell.
Ministerial Education—Was added to the list and Dr. W. C. Cleveland to report.

Invited visitors and correspondents to seats and received as follows:

Visitors—Elder P. M. Callaway, Newton, Ala ; Dr W. C. Bledsoe, Vice President of Foreign Mission Board for Alabama; Elder W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Secretary State Mission Board of Alabama; Elder G. S Anderson, Vice President Home Mission Board; Dr W. C. Cleveland, President Board of Ministerial Education; Dr. B. F Riley, President Howard College, Alabama; Dr. J. T. Murfee, President Marion Military Institute, Alabama; Dr. S. W. Averett, President Judson Female Institute, Alabama; Elder C. W. Hare, editor Alabama Baptist; Professor J. M. McIver, Scottsboro College, Alabama.

On motion, M. Tiler, colored, was recognized as pastor of the colored Baptist church at Lowndesboro, Ala.

Adjourned to 3:30 o'clock p. m.

Prayer by Dr. W. C. Cleveland.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met and resumed business.

Prayer by Elder J. Falkner.

Religious exercises conducted by Dr. W. C. Bledsoe.

Called for petitionary letters from newly constituted churches or churches dismissed from other associations. None received.

Committee on Order of Business made report, which was partially adopted, and the report on Sabbath-schools read and discussed, and after being amended, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your committee, after consulting with the brethren, decided not to hold any Sunday-school convention the present year, but offered their services to the Centennial Mission Board, to do what they could in holding mission meetings with the churches. We recommend the continuing of a Sunday-school committee as heretofore. We are encouraged, for we find that the Sunday-school interest is growing in our churches First Montgomery, Philadelphia, Mt. Lebanon, Shoal Creek and Hayneville churches have no letters; in the five churches four have no Sunday schools, and of the thirteen churches with letters, only one report no Sunday-school. Therefore, of the eighteen churches, all have Sunday schools except Philadelphia, Mt. Lebanon, Shoal Creek, Mt. Zion and Hayneville. We urge the consideration of holding Sunday-school mass meetings once or twice during the year, at each church. We also recommend to the Sunday schools of the Association that each take a collection for missions the first Sabbath in each month.

Respectfully submitted,

JESSE H DICKSON, Ch'n Com.

Appointed the following committees to report during this session:

On Finance and Auditing—G. W. Ellis, A. H. Eubank and W. E. Lacey.
State of the Churches—J. G. Harris, J. T. Boyd, P. N. Cilley and W. G. Sullivant.
Nominations—J. R. McLendon, Amos Jones, U. G. W. Powell and W. F. Sadler.

The hour of 11 o'clock to-morrow morning was selected for Dr. G. B. Eager to preach the Missionary sermon in place of Dr. W. Harris, who had died since the last session of the Association.

Adjourned. Prayer by Dr. W. C. Bledsoe.

NIGHT SESSION.

After reading the reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions, Elder W. B. Crumpton was given the time to illustrate, by his "Missionary Map of the World," the progress and results of the mission work, which he did to an attentive and interested audience.

Adjourned. Prayer by Elder G. S. Anderson.

WEDNESDAY.

MORNING SESSION.

The Association met. Devotional exercises led by Elder W. M. Harris.

The subject of Missions was further considered, and adoption of the reports deferred until after preaching the Missionary Sermon.

The report on Ministerial Education was read, and after an address by Dr. W. C. Cleveland, pledges for support of ministers of Howard College, to be paid December and February next, as follows:

Wetumpka church	$25 00	Mt. Hebron church	$ 5 00
Adams Street church	25 00	Friendship church	5 00
Ramer church	10 00	Bethany church	10 00
Mt. Zion church	10 00	Hayneville church	5 00
Prattville church	15 00	Deatsville church	5 00
Bethesda church	5 00	First church, Montgomery	100 00
Pine Level church	10 00	Mt. Lebanon church	5 00
Lowndesboro church	15 00		
Total			$250 00

The report was then adopted as follows:

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee respectfully report:

Resolved, 1. That it is the sense of this Association that the work committed to the Board of Ministerial Education is equal in importance to any fostered by this body.

Resolved, 2. That we urge our churches to sympathize with it prayerfully and support it liberally with contributions to be paid in November and February.

Resolved, 3. That the Committee on Ministerial Education be made one of the standing committees of the Association.

W. C. Cleveland, Chairman.

The Missionary sermon was preached by Dr. G. B. Eager. Text: Hebrews 10:32,35. Subject, "Light from the past; or lessons from a century of missions."

A collection was taken for missions amounting to $52.55 by cash and pledges, to be sent to Elder W. B. Crumpton, Marion, Ala., in thirty days.

Reports on Missions were amended and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON STATE AND HOME MISSIONS.

We are under the command. and therefore under the obligation, to carry the gospel to all the world. The work of the State Mission Board is of great importance taken in connection with this command and this responsibility, for two reasons:

1. Because this State is a part of the whole world, and the inhabitants of its unevangelized dark places are as much entitled to an opportunity for salvation as any other people on earth.

2. Because it is only by making missionaries of our home people that we can be the great force that we ought to be in the world's evangelization.

It is not necessary to give utterance to so plain a fact as that of the neces sity for our sustaining with our sympathy or prayers, our active co-operation and our means this great work.

We would call especial attention, with heartiest commendation, to the missionary meetings instituted by the Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board, known as Baptist Rallies These meetings, held at central points in the various Associations, and to which the multitudes come to hear the best talent and consecration of surrounding churches discuss the great theme of missions, are educating in their effects, and this is what is needed—missionary education, missionary training.

The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention began the last conventional year with a debt of $10,000, and the obligation to pay $20,000 during the year on the Havana house, and in order to meet this $30,-000, it was necessary to reduce expenses, which the Board assures us accounts for the fact that the general results of its operations are somewbat reduced.

The report, however, made at the last session of the Southern Baptist Convention, is cheerful, hopeful and inspiring. The $30,000 was paid.

With the great tide of immigration that is sweeping into and over this country, bringing with it great currents of atheism, infidelity and "baptized heathenism," if we are to bave a great Christian nation upon which the world must largely depend for the gospel, we must support the great work of Home Missions; and,

Whereas, The State Mission Board has requested the Montgomery Association to try to raise for missions and colportage the sum of $2,000; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That a committee be appointed to apportion to the churches the amount suggested.

Resolved, 2. That the pastors and churches be urged to appoint one Sunday in each month to take collections for mission purposes.

W. M. Harris Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

This is the centennial year of modern missions. One hundred years ago the plan for executing the last command of our Savior, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," was inaugurated. The evangelization of the world was the aim and purpose. At that date there was not a gate to any heathen nation open to our missionaries Taking their lives in their hands, they went forth to the battle. In victory or defeat, in sunshine or in storm, wherever they were, their trust was in God It would fill page after page and volume after volume, to give a proper and explicit history of the mission work during the past one hundred years. Now every clime, nation and country can be entered by our missionaries, and there they can preach the unsearchable riches of Christ Our successful work is gratifying. The report to the Southern Baptist Convention concludes with the following:

"It is with gratitude that the Board thus reports the most prosperous year, on the field, ever recorded. Never has there been so much preaching and teaching; never so many baptisms. The future seems unprecedentedly bright. That clouds have passed over some of the missions is as true as that the greatest good frequently comes from seeming evil. There is nothing that the Board sees ahead which, in their opinion, does not betoken greater progress to our work; and the prospect at home is even more cheering than that abroad. The thunder and lightning which have disturbed some in a small area of our territory have cleared the atmosphere in that limited sphere, and given promise of more healthfulness and earnestness of action. Truly, in the judgment of the Board, there has never been, in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention, interest in the cause of the world's evangelization so wide-spread and increasing. This judgment is formed from the spirit and statements of correspondents, the missionary news and publications of our denominational papers, the demand for religious literature, and a kind of glowing missionary atmosphere among the churches and in the associations and conventions wherever one goes in our Southern States. The reason for this state of things is not hard to find. The Centennial year is upon us. Grand and arousing speeches have been made by earnest, eloquent men. Our consecrated women have never been more enthusiastically and sagaciously engaged in kindling and increasing interest. Many pastors have revived the monthly concert for prayer, and more frequently refer to the subject of foreign missions in their sermons and lectures, and more regularly and more heartily bring the cause, in their public prayers, before a throne of grace. The Centennial Committee is also at work with its plans and efforts. And there can be no doubt that in the Sunday school, and in the home, and in the marts of business, there is more than usual prayer and conversation on the subject. Another cause is the multitude of missionary documents that have been scattered among our churches. Since May last, there must have gone out of the mission rooms, at Richmond, not less than a hundred thousand tracts, various in the treatment of the subject of missions, and not a few of them powerful in argument and persuasive in appeal. There are many indications that the movement, plainly started, is to go forward to a grand consummation aimed at by the Southern Baptist Convention.

"But our main ground of hope is hope for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This baptism of enlightened minds will lead to longing for the salvation of souls and of the world. It will arouse to the sacredness of the great commission, the doom of perishing millions, the honesty of consecrating the Lord's means to the Lord's service, the danger of the blood of the nations coming upon the head of those who withhold the blood shed for the redemption of the world. And if the Spirit's power be essential for the realization and the discharge of duty for the world's evangelization, will He not be given, in his awakening and consecrating puissance, in answer to the prayer of God's people, "in the name of Him" with whom the eternal Father covenanted: "Ask of me and I shall give unto thee the heathen for an inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for a possession?" In the beginning of the Centennial year, what could be more appropriate than a week of prayer, recommended by the Convention, for the outpouring of the Spirit upon our Southern Zion, that the ends contemplated by this centenary, so far as is in accordance with the divine will, may be accomplished, and that the time may hasten when the kingdom of this world shall become the kingdom of the Lord and of his Christ?"

J. G. Harris, Chairman.

On motion, Rev. Bro. Boyd, pastor of Lowndesboro M. E. church, being present, was invited to a seat.

Appointed the following committee to apportion the amounts to the churches for missions: J. H. Dickson, A. H. Eubank and J. B. Bell.

Adjourned. Benediction by Elder G. S. Anderson.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met and resumed business. Prayer by Dr. B. F. Riley.

The Treasurer's report was read and referred to the Auditing Committee.

The committee on apportioning amounts to the churches for missions, made their report, which was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

Adams Street church	$300 00	Friendship church	$ 20 00
First church, Montgomery	900 00	Mt. Lebanon church	20 00
Ramer church	60 00	Mt. Zion church	40 00
Bethesda church	25 00	Wetumpka church	200 00
Philadelphia church	10 00	Bethany church	50 00
Pine Level church	60 00	Prattville church	100 00
Mt. Hebron church	25 00	Coosada church	30 00
Deatsville church	60 00	Lowndesboro church	60 00
Shoal Creek church	10 00	Hayneville church	30 00
Total			$2000 00

These amounts are to be prorated between the three Mission and the Bible and Colportage Boards according to the amounts we are trying to raise for these boards, namely: For State Missions $15,000; Home Missions, $6,500; Foreign Missions, $8,500; Bible and Colportage, $4 000.

J. H. Dickson, Chairman.

Report on Temperance read and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee to whom was referred the question of temperance, beg leave to submit the following resolutions, which we think covers the entire question so far as it relates to us as Baptists:

Resolved, That the Montgomery Association now in session re affirms, with all possible emphasis, its uncompromising enmity to the sale and use of all intoxicants as a beverage. We condemn the liquor traffic, whether under high or low license, as an offence against God, and a crime against humanity. We earnestly recommend that our pastors, preaching to churches within the bounds of this association, deliver, during the coming associational year, one or more sermons to their churches on the subject of temperance.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that no member who is selling liquor, should retain his membership in any Baptist church.

C. V. Collier,
Chairman.

Report on Indigent Ministers read and amended, and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON INDIGENT MINISTERS, AND THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF DECEASED MINISTERS.

The care of our indigent ministers and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers merits, and should receive, more consideration, and increased contributions at our hands

From a glance at the financial tables of our associations, in Alabama, you will rarely ever find anything reported in this column at all, and the sums thus reported being so small, amount to little or nothing. The consecrated minister is called upon to do many things, and to go to many places, that require time, neglect of family, and expense, in which he gets nothing (temporally) in return. We expect him to meet his appointments promptly, regardless of the weather and surrounding circumstances, and

as a ruleis on a meagre salary, and in numbers of cases is not paid at all. He is so much absorbed in trying to help save souls, that he cannot, from the necessity of the case, give attention to the saving of this world's goods; and after he has worn himself out and unable to do further active service, the perplexing question of "what shall I eat, or wherewithal shall I be clothed," constantly stares him in the face; and shall we, the people whom he has served, by ministrations from the pulpit, consoling in times of trouble and bereavement, and burying of our dead, sit idly by, and neglect his temporal necessities, and fail to do our full duty? No, brethren, let us in our Christian manhood, rise to the importance of the occasion and take care of our aged and indigent ministers and their families, by making this one of the benevolent objects for which our churches take regular collections. Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. ELLIS, Chairman.

Report on Education read, and after remarks by several brethren, was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The committee charged with the work of submitting a statement upon the matter of education, beg leave to report:

That it is an occasion of sincere gratification to be able to indicate that there is a perceptible growth in the spirit of education among our people. It is rarely true that any indifference is manifested in this matter. In the rural regions, the best teachers are eagerly sought in order to the preparation of boys and girls for the higher standards of the colleges. Indifferent and incompetent teachers no longer prevail in the country, as has been some times been true in the past. The reactionary influence of the country and college is steadily lifting our people upon a higher plane of progress.

By degrees, our people throughout the entire country are becoming aroused to the importance of maintaining distinctively Christian or denominational institutions of learning

In a period in which vice so widely prevails, and seeks to present itself in so many insidious forms, it is necessary to erect safeguards about our youth while their minds are being trained and their characters are being formed.

Foreseeing this necessity more than a half century ago, our fathers established two colleges—the Howard and the Judson—for the education of the sons and daughters of Baptist parents. That which impressed our ancestors half a century ago as important in the maintenance and perpetuation of Baptist principles, has resolved itself into a necessity in these perilous times. In these institutions are placed men and women who throw around the youth of both sexes the most wholesome, Christian influences.

Howard College, located at East Lake, has just celebrated its fiftieth birthday. For half a century it has been the pivot upon which has turned denominational thought and sentiment. It has been one of the chief factors in the intellectual and spiritual development of the State, and it has furnished to our pulpits the bulk of its ministry. It has contributed many valuable men to the pulpits and bars and institutions of learning to many other States. To day it is doing a far better work than ever before, as is shown by the last catalogue. At East Lake the College has a most valuable property, embracing five brick structures and other valuable buildings. Of the 196 students in attendance last session, about thirty were ministerial.

The Judson Institute, at Marion, is unabated in the superior work which it has been doing since 1839. Last year there were enrolled 159 students. Of these, twenty one were full graduates. There is no hesitation in saying that the Judson is the equal of any College in the South for the education of young women, and the superior of most of them.

It is scarcely necessary to urge upon our people the importance of sustaining these schools, which are peculiarly our own.

We desire to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That in view of the importance of bringing our sons and daughters under the wholesome influence of Christian institutions pecu-

liarly our own, we hereby commit ourselves in our influence and patronage to Howard College and the Judson Female Institute

B. F. Riley, Chairman.

Report on Nominations read and action postponed to night session.

Adjourned. Benediction by Elder J. Falkner.

NIGHT SESSION.

The association met. Prayer by Elder W. D. Hubbard.

The report on nominations was adopted, after making Prattville church the next place of meeting, instead of Bethesda church, as follows:

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee recommend that the next meeting be held with Prattville church, Autauga county, on Tuesday before the 4th Sabbath in July, 1893, at 10:30 o'clock a m , Dr. G B. Eager to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder W. M. Harris, alternate. Elder G. S. Anderson to preach the Missionary Sermon at such time during the session as the association may designate when it convenes

J. R. McLendon, Ch'n.

Appointed the following committee to write an obituary on the death of Wm. Harris, D. D , who died since our last meeting: Dr. G. B. Eager, W. M. Harris, J. G. Harris and G. W. Ellis.

The Moderator appointed the standing committees to report next session, as follows:

Home and State Missions—Dr. G. B Eager, W. P Dawson, A. H. Eubank
Foreign Missions—W. M Harris, J. P. Streety, W. F. Sadler.
Sunday-schools—W. J. Elliott, P. N. Cilley, G. F. Sedberry.
Education—J. G. Harris, R. Meadows, C. V. Collier.
Temperance—J. H. Dickson, W. G. Sullivant. E. E. Gresham.
Bible and Colportage—W J Elliott, W. E. Lacey, J. B. Bell
Ministerial Education—C. W. Hare, A. A Poindexter, G. W. Boyd.
Indigent Ministers—G. W. Ellis, C E. Edwards, J. N. Norris.
Woman's Work—Dr. G B. Eager, J. G. Harris, U. G. W. Powell.

Appointed Sunday-shool committeemen for next year:

First District—J. D. Bell.
Second District—J. C. Pope.
Third District—J. G. Johnson.
For the Association—J. H. Dickson.
Centennial Committee for the Association—W. M. Harris, W. J. Elliott, A. H. Eubank.
Committee to arrange programme for next association for three days—J. G. Harris, J. H. Dickson, G. W. Ellis.

Report on Finance and Auditing read and adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1891.

J. H. Dickson, Treasurer Montgomery Association.

DR.

To Minute money	$ 26	70
State Missions	91	80
Ministerial Education	84	25
Home Missions	39	00
Foreign Missions	23	76
Indigent Ministers		50
Church building	12	95
Church building in Cuba	5	00
Madeiro Institute, Mexico, for "Cousin George," from Ray Sunbeams, Deatsville, Ala	7	40
Howard College	7	50
Associational purposes	12	50
Missions, Saturday's collection	18	40
Missions, Sunday-school collection	3	85
Howard College Collection Saturday	26	00
Bible Work, Sunday collection	8	63
Total	$368 26	$ 368 26

CR.

By cash—G. E. Brewer	$ 8	65
D. I. Purser	26	00
J. G. Harris	61	25
J. I. Lamar	39	20
W. B. Crumpton	233	16
Total	$368 26	$ 368 26

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Dickson,
Treasurer.

Report on Woman's Work read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Whereas, Woman's Work has, within the past few years, been recognized by the Baptists of this country as one of the powerful auxiliaries in the spread of the gospel, and

Whereas, There has been a State Central Committee appointed by the Alabama Baptist Convention, located at Birmingham, to co-operate with the Executive Committee on Woman's Work, which is located in Baltimore; therefore be it

Resolved, That this body declare itself in fullest sympathy and active co-operation with this Central Committee.

Resolved 2, That this association appoint a standing committee to report on woman's work at every session of this body.

W. J. Elliott, Ch'n.

Report on Bible and Colportage read, and after being amended, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE.

Your Committee on Bible and Colportage submit the following:

The Colportage Board has employed twelve colporteurs, who have sold in the last year nearly 3,000 books to the value of nearly $2,000. They have found 2,385 homes without Bibles; have given away Bibles and Testaments to the value of $44.72; distributed 8,000 pages of tracts, and visited 10,235 families and 118 churches. The report is from the work of five colporteurs, the report of seven having failed to reach the secretary's office. This board solicits the orders from all of our Sunday-schools for all of their literature needed. Only 268 Sunday-schools have ordered their literature through this board in the past year. This is a very small per cent. of the 700 or 800 Sunday-schools in the State.

Notwithstanding the small means at the command of this board, their work has been remarkably successful in the past year. Yet it has not been such as to meet the wants of the vast field open before it

This board is struggling under difficulties, and unless the churches come to their assistance with finances, the board cannot make progress.

We recommend to this association, that the churches in the association make regular contributions for this cause, along in line of missions.

We recommend to the churches and Sunday-schools our Convention or Kind Words series of Sunday school literature; this board is located at Opelika, Ala., J. B. Collier, Secretary.

We recommend to the association the Alabama Baptist, State paper,* at Montgomery, Ala.

J. B. Bell, Ch'n.

Report on State of the Churches read and adopted, as follows:

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Adams Street reports: 7 additions by baptism, 20 by letter; present membership, 229; number on Sunday-school roll, 160; weekly prayer meetings; contributed for benevolent purposes, $210 16.

Wetumpka reports: 3 additions by letter; present number, 90: on Sunday-school roll, 57; for benevolent purposes, $84 25.

Ramer reports: decrease, by letter, 12; present membership, 52; on Sunday-school roll, 50; weekly prayer meeting; for benevolent purposes, $63.65.

Prattville: Increase, by baptism, 2; by letter, 10; present membership, 106; on Sunday school roll, 110; weekly prayer meeting; for benevolent purposes, $91.13.

Bethesda: decrease, by letter, 7; present membership, 28; on Sunday-school roll, 14; weekly prayer meeting.

Coosada: No additions; present membership, 24; on Sunday-school roll, 28.

Bethany: Increase, by letter, 2; decrease, by letter 2; present membership, 69; on Sunday-school roll, 25; for benevolent purposes, $13.85.

Deatsville; Decrease, by letter 12; present membership, 69; on Sunday-school roll, 50; weekly prayer meeting; for benevolent purposes, $35.05.

Mt. Hebron: Increase by letter, 2; membership, 63; on Sunday school roll, 44; for benevolence, $16 50.

Friendship: Additions, by baptism, 2; by letter, 9; membership, 58; on Sunday-school roll, 60; for benevolent purposes $5 00.

Pine Level: No increase; membership, 98; on Sunday-school roll, 65; weekly prayer meeting for benevolent purposes $18 98

Mt. Zion: Increase, by letter, 1; membership, 27, no Sunday-school nor prayer meeting; for benevolent purposes, $23.20

Lowndesboro: Increase, by letter, 1: membership, 22; on Sunday-school roll, 40; for benevolent purposes, $40 12

Hayneville: Decrease by letter, 2; membership, 26; no Sunday school nor prayer meeting; for benevolence, $25 00

First Montgomery: Increase, by baptism, 4; by letter, 18; present membership, 747: on Sunday school roll, 315; weekly prayer meeting.

J. G. Harris Ch'n.

The Clerk was instructed to send to each church, sixty days before the next meeting of the Association, a blank form of church letter to the Association, upon which to report their statistics.

Ordered that the Clerk have 500 copies of the Minutes printed, and the Minute fund be used for printing and distributing them and paying the Clerk for his services.

Bro. G. W. Boyd asked for a contribution to aid in completing Bethesda church house at Sprague Junction, Montgomery county; $34.70 was raised in cash for that purpose.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this, the Montgomery Association, are hereby given to the Moderator and Clerk for their efficiency in the discharge of their duties as officers of this body, to the citizens of Lowndesboro, who have so generously entertained the delegates and visitors, and to the railroads for reduced rates.

Appointed delegates to the State Convention:

B. A. Jackson, Dr. G. B. Eager, W. M. Harris, W. J. Elliott, J. G. Harris, G. W. Ellis, J. H. Dickson, J. I. Lamar, J. R. McLendon, J. B. Bell.

Elder W. M. Harris was appointed delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention; Bro. J. H. Dickson, alternate.

A hymn was sung, the parting hand extended, and the Association adjourned to meet with Prattville church on Tuesday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1893, at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

Prayer by Elder W. M. Harris.

B. A. JACKSON, MODERATOR,
Ramer, Ala.

J. I. LAMAR, CLERK,
Deatsville, Ala.

OBITUARY.

REV. WM. HARRIS, D. D.

Dr. Harris was born in Frankfort, Ky., June 2, 1848, of sturdy, Christian parentage. His mother dying when he was a child, he was reared by a pious and devoted grandmother. He was graduated from Georgetown College, Kentucky, when barely at his majority, and entered at once upon pastoral service in East St. Louis. He was afterwards successively pastor of the First Baptist church, St. Joseph, Mo.; the Delmar Avenue church, St. Louis, Mo.; the Seventh church, Baltimore, Md.; and the First Baptist church, Montgomery, Alabama. During the seventeen years of his ministerial life, he never missed a Sunday from sickness until the Sunday before his death. He died Dec. 28, 1891, after a brief illness from la grippe.

Dr. Harris fell at his post in the prime of a noble manhood. He was a man of superb physique, great vitality, indomitable energy and a marked personal appearance. "Strength and beauty" were combined in him as in the sanctuary. He was a conspicuous illustration of "the sound mind in the sound body." He possessed what is better than mere brilliancy, a level head and a loving heart. Good sense, gentleness, graciousness and force of character were blended in him and backed by a humaneness and a breadth of sympathy which made him a man and a minister of rare attractiveness and power. To his work, whether in the pulpit, among the people, or in whatever he engaged, he brought the light and the warmth of an unquenchable enthusiasm. "He saw success where others feared failure," as Dr. Ellis said of him, "and in this confidence of hopefulness he often brought undertakings to success when others would have given up and failed." Socially he was a magnetic and charming man. To meet him even once was to feel this; to know him personally was to love him inevitably. This made him a power as a pastor. He was a Christian altruist of the highest type. He lived for others. He sought "not to be ministered unto, but to minister." This disinterestedness gave him a wonderful power of adaptation under all circumstances, and enabled him to put old and young, high and low, rich and poor quickly in relations of ease and unembarrassment with himself. Hence he was personal friend as well as pastor to his people, knew them and cared for

them individually as well as collectively, and so was devotedly loved and appreciated by them. Though not self-assertive, he was a man of positive convictions and always had the courage of his convictions. His Christian manliness and native courtesy, however, placed him at once "above the littleness of wilfulness and the narrowness of stubbornness."

As a preacher he was terse and tender, clear as a sunbeam and thoroughly evangelical. Preaching, with him, was always "truth through personality." He believed, therefore he spake. He preached salvation through Christ alone, because through Christ alone he had himself found salvation.

He was a conscientious student and made most thorough and laborious preparation for preaching, but he preached in well-nigh absolute reliance upon the Holy Spirit to give efficacy and success to his efforts. He accounted prayer the supreme preparation on his part, as he accounted "the demonstration of the Spirit" essential on the hearer's part. "There was nothing sensational in his preaching," says one who knew him intimately. "He abhorred clap-trapery in ever form. Yet he did not drag his work along the deep old ruts cut by worn out methods" A lover of the old doctrines, he preached them ever with that freshness which comes from the heart. While his ministry was thoroughly evangelistic, it was especially conspicuous as a ministry that built up Christian people in spiritual character. While unswervingly loyal to the principles and claims of his own denomination, he delighted to maintain the most cordial relations to Christians of other denominations. It was no surprise, therefore, that Christians of all names, and even Jews and men of the world, were found among the mourners at his funeral.

As a crowning tribute, let it be said that he was essentially a missionary. The cause of missions at home and abroad enlisted his liveliest sympathies, his liberal gifts and his most earnest efforts. His highest ambition for his church was, that it might be, in a true sense, a missionary church. No one who heard his last and only address before our State Convention, will ever forget the white heat of missionary zeal which burned and glowed through out it.

It is not too much to say, therefore, that in the death of Dr. Harris, the First church of Montgomery has lost an almost ideal pastor, the Montgomery association a wise and enthusiastic worker, and the denomination at large an able and consecrated Christian minister. His loss is still keenly felt, not in Montgomery only, but wherever he was known, and must continue to be felt for a long time to come. But "though dead, he yet speaketh." In dying, no less than in living, he glorified God, crowning the work of his life by the christening and unifying influence of his death

"Servant of God, well done!"

Geo. B. Eager, Chn;
W. M. Harris,
J. G. Harris,
G. W. Ellis,
Committee.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF MONTGOMERY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1892.

CHURCHES.	Home Missions.	Church Building. (Not at home.)	Foreign Missions.	State Missions.	Min. Ed. Howard College.	Min. Ed. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.	Minutes.	Associational Purposes and Undesignated Missions.	Howard College. (Building.)	Judson Female Institute. (Building.)	Sunday Schools		Women's Society.			Total.	Pastor's Salary.	Church Building, Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, etc.	Grand Total.	Value of Church Property.
											Missions.	School Expenses.	Missions.	Home Expenses.	Sunbeams and Busy Bees.					
*Adams Street	$ 17 50	$	$23 45	$46 35	$ 25 00	$14 50	$ 3 00	$	$50 00	$	$ 23 76	$ 92 59	$	$316 50	$30 00	$ 642 55	$ 1100 00	$ 447 91	$ 2,190 46	$15,000 00
Bethany				2 85			1 00	11 00			2 00					16 85	150 00	11 00	176 85	700 00
Bethesda							1 50									1 50	45 00	525 00	571 50	700 00
Coosada							2 00									2 00		160 52	162 52	500 00
Deatsville			3 80	7 00			2 00		6 25			12 22			3 78	35 05	185 00	7 75	228 80	450 00
Friendship							1 50				5 00					6 50			6 50	500 00
Lowndesboro	25 00				15 00		2 00					16 80			3 07	45 07	250 00	600 00	895 07	2,300 00
Mt. Hebron					10 00		1 50	1 50								13 00	75 00		13 00	750 00
Mt. Zion	2 15		2 60	10 80	5 00		2 15	50								18 98	100 00		123 20	1,000 00
Pine Level			5 00				2 45	4 39			7 14					18 98	200 00	13 50	213 50	1,500 00
Prattville	6 88		10 25				2 00						24 00		50 00	93 13	200 00		93 13	1,000 00
Ramer	2 78	10 00	3 52	5 55	10 00		1 50			6 25		18 12				63 55	100 00		163 55	800 00
Wetumpka		38 50			35 00		2 00				2 00	31 36	6 75			115 61	340 00	35 00	490 61	8,000 00
Special Collection	17 53		17 53	17 54																
(1st) Montgomery	568 09						5 00				36 30	25 00					2,500 00	2,700 00	5,834 59	35,000 00
Mt. Lebanon				1 50	5 00		1 50											175 00	183 00	500 00
Totals	$ 639 93	$48 50	$66 51	$91 49	$105 00	$14 50	$31 10	$16 39	$56 25	$ 6 25	$ 76 20	$ 196 09	$30 75	$316 50	$86 85	$1076 99	$ 5,245 00	$ 4,743 00	$ 11,344 28	$68,700 00

Name and Post-office of Moderator: B. A. Jackson, Ramer, Ala. Name and Post-office of Clerk: J. 1. Lamar, Deatsville, Ala. Session of 1892 held with Lowndesboro church, Lowndes county, on July 19, 1892.

*Report for nine months—no regular preaching from June to November.

196.07

4939.09

6.25

48.50

16.39

71.14

STATISTICS OF MONTGOMERY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1892.

Church.	County.	Pastor.	Clerk.	Clerk's P. O.	No. Ordained Ministers.	No. Licensed Ministers.	Membership Last Reported.	Incr'e by			D'rse by				Present Membership.	S. S. Officers and Teachers.	S. S. Pupils.	Volumns in Library.	Preaching Sabbaths.	Reports Prayer Meeting.
								Baptism.	Letter.	Restoration.	Letter	Exclusion.	Erasure	Death.						
Adams Street	Montgomery	W. M. Harris	H. C Oswalt	Montgomery	1	1	214	7	20	1	10			3	229	15	160	100	Ev'ry	Weekly
Bethany	Elmore.	W. J. D. Upshaw	J. S. Turner	Ware			61		2		12				64	4	25		3	
Bethesda	Montgomery		J. T. Boyd	Ada			35				7			1	28	3	14		4	Weekly
Coosada	Elmore		J. E. Jones	Robinson Spg's			23								21		28		1	
Deatsville	Elmore	A. C. Swindall.	T. O. Worrell	Deatsville			82				12			1	69	10	50		2	Weekly
Friendship	Montgomery	W. G. Sullivant	F. M. Sullivant	Ralf Branch	2		56		9	1		4		1	58		60			
Hayneville	Lowndes	W. J. Elliott	J. P. Streety	Hayneville			28	2			2				26				4	
Lowndesboro	Lowndes	W. J. Elliott	F. Gordon	Lowndesboro			21		2		1				22	8	40		1	
First, Montgomery	Montgomery	G. B. Eager	J. M. Savage	Montgomery	4		769	4	18		36	3		5	747	42	273	600	Ev'ry	Weekly
Mt. Lebanon	Montgomery	B. A. Jackson	W. F. Nisblett	Woodley			54						15		39					
Mt Hebron	Elmore	J. M. Johnson	J. Hogan	Spigener's.			63		2		2				63	8	41		4	
Mt. Zion	Montgomery	B. A. Jackson	J. G. Mills.	Chambers.			31		1		5				27				4	
Philadelphia	Montgomery			Lapine			34								31					
Pine Level	Montgomery	J. S. Yarbrough.	J. H. Lee	Pine Level.			98	2			3				95	8	65		1	Weekly
Prattville	Autauga.	J. E. Bell	J. B. Bell	Prattville			98		10		3			1	106	17	110		2	Weekly
Ramer	Montgomery	B. A. Jackson	J. J. McLendon.	Ramer	1		61				12				52	8	50		2	Weekly
Shoal Creek	Elmore	J. S. Long	J. N. Dean	Lightwood			25								33					
Wetumpka	Elmore	G. S. Anderson	G. F. Sedberry	Wetumpka			87		3						90	6	57		2&4	Weekly
Total					8	1	1813	15	67	2	95	7	15	12	1806	129	976	700		

Sunday-School Superintendents and their Post-offices.—Adams Street, G. W. Thomas, Montgomery; Bethany, W. P. Dawson, Ware; Bethesda, G. W. Body, Sprague Junction; Coosada, R. Hudson, Coosada; Deatsville, M. A. Pyron, Deatsville; Lowndesboro, P. N. Cilley, Lowndesboro; 1st, Montgomery, M. Cody, Montgomery; Mt. Hebron, G. Billings, Spigener's; Pine Level, J. H. Dickson, Pine Level; Prattville, G. Ward, Prattville; Ramer, J. R. McLendon, Naftel; Wetumpka, C. Lull, Wetumpka.

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